THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) Due health care is extended to workers engaged in hazardous processes in Bullet and Electroplating divisions of ordnance factories. They are periodically medically examined. They are given milk and sugar under a scheme of preventive health care. There are 49 shelter and rest rooms at Ammunition Factory, Khadki for lunch and rest besides a full fledged Industrial Canteen. Absenteeism is not due to lack of medical care and has declined in the Ammunition Factory, Kirkee from 17.66% in 1996-97 to 15.78% so far during the current year. Factory Health Clinics are attached to all the Ordnance Factories and function as Occupational Health Centres. Medical Officers of Indian Ordnance Factories Health Service Cadre are employed in these clinics.

Additional fleet for IAF

738. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Times of India, Mumbai, dated the 28th April, 1998 under the caption 'Half of IAF's fleet becoming obsolete';

(b) whether it is a fact that Indian Air Force will require augmenting additional modern aircraft to balance the scrapped obsolete aircraft; and

(c) the required addional fleet of Indian Air Force to meet the Pakistani threat in view of Pakistan developing new squadrons?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Variants of MIG-21 aircraft which constitute almost 50% of the IAF fleet are at the tail end of spectrum or already obsolescent. Action as considered necessary for replacement of the ageing fleet is being taken. It is however not considered desirable to disclose any further details in this regard.

Unauthorised use of army land

739. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state?

(a) whether the growing instances of unathorised use of army land for commercial purposes have been brought to Government's notice during the past five years, State-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon particularly in Maharashtra;

(c) whether Government have approved proposals for lease of defence land not of immediate use for the defence purposes to NGOs during past five years; and

(d) the details of similar proposals pending with Government and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The State-wise details of instances of unauthorised use of Army land for commercial purposes including the cases noticed in Maharashtra are indicated in the statement attached. (*See* below)

(c) and (d) Out of 41 proposals for lease as on 31.8.1997, 12 leases have been accorded and 29 proposals are pending.

Statement

State-wise details of instances of unauthorized use of Army land for commercial purposes including the cases noticed in Maharashtra

(a)

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of cases as brought to the notice of the Govt.
1.	Delhi	10 (Ten)
2.	Himachal Pradesh	1 (One)
3.	Punjab	2 (Two)
4.	Andhra Pradesh	1 (One)

1	2	3
5.	Karnataka	5 (Five)
6.	Maharashtra	7 (Seven)
7.	Gujarat	1 (One)
8.	Rajasthan	1 (One)
9.	Meghalaya	2 (Two)
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2 (Two)
11.	Haryana	1 (One)
12.	West Bengal	2 (Two)
13.	Bihar	1 (One)

(b)

Sl. No.	Name of State	The purpose of diversion of defence land as brought to the notice of the Government.	Remarks
1		2	3
	Maharashtra Mumbai	Defence land measuring 50 acres known as training area for Army and Navy is being used by the United Service Club.	Army Hqrs. has intimated that the US Club has been in existence since 1929.
		2. A married accommodation building has been converted into Sainik Aramgrah and is now being used as a hostel.	The conversion of married accommodation into Sainik Aramgrah has been regularised by the Govt. Though Army has intimated that temporary use of the building as hostel has been stopped, reports have been received on the contrary.
		3. One defence building with land has been let out for running a Sainik Restaurant.	Army Hqrs. has intimated that the Restaurant has since been closed as it is viewed as a commercial venture.
		4. 43 shops were constructed on defence land on TIFR Road.	Army Hqrs. have intimated that it has been decided to demolish the shops after re-establishing the right of possesion of the shops.
		5. Defence land has been allotted to Army Wives Welfare Association for running PCO, Gas agency, computer training Institution etc.	Army Hqrs state that AWWA is very much part of Armed force and it is fully concerned with the welfare of the serving and retired widows. The stand has been refuted by MOD.
		6. A bungalow was allotted for a L.P.G. Godown in Aurangabad.	Army Hqrs have intimated that the premises have since been vacated by the agency.
		7. Hqrs. Sub Area sanctioned 2,622 Sq. mtrs. of defence land at Bunder Colaba for imparting training to Sea Cadets which is being run by a private individual.	Local Military authorities have been instructed to assess the rental value of land and other details.

MOD have issued instructions to freeze all future use of defence land and buildings by the Army for commercial purposes